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$2B tourist 'experience' unveiled

Huge sports/entertainment complex planned off I-71 in Delaware County

By Marla Matzer Rose
The Columbus Dispatch

A major sports-and-entertainment attraction is coming to Delaware County, designed to draw visitors from a multistate region.

If the 350-acre project is fully developed as planned, Planet Oasis will be similar in size to the Kings Island amusement park near Cincinnati and will offer more than two dozen wide-ranging attractions, including a saltwater lake as big as 20 acres with a sand beach.

The $2 billion park, planned for a site adjacent to the Tanger Outlet mall on the east side of I-71, also is to include indoor skydiving, go-kart racing, rock climbing, an indoor water park, skate park, BMX racing, e-sports and other attractions. It also would have a wellness center, hotels, a conference center and at least 70 restaurants, ranging from fast food to fine dining.

"We call this the ultimate entertainment experience," said developer David Glimcher, saying the "huge, immense" development can be hard to grasp at first.

"We live in a high-tension,

'Callous and insensitive'

Deputy Director of Medicaid Patrick Stephan and Medicaid Director Barbara Sears listen as Sen. Vernon Sykes addresses them Thursday during a Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee hearing at the Statehouse. [ERIC ALBRECHT/DISPATCH]

Lawmakers assail Ohio Medicaid officials

By Catherine Candisky
The Columbus Dispatch

Enraged by pharmacy middlemen making millions on Ohio's health insurance program for the poor and disabled, lawmakers tore into Medicaid officials Thursday, accusing them of withholding data, failing to recognize the scope of the problem, and ignoring recommendations for reducing costs.

"Your attitude is callous and insensitive to the poor people we all serve," said Sen. Vernon Sykes, D-Akron, as he scolded Medicaid officials before the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee.

Sykes, one of the legislature's longest-serving lawmakers, pulled no punches, surprising those who know his usual soft-spoken temperament.

"We're talking about hundreds of millions of dollars, and I sit here as a senator that represents a lot of poor people. … They just can't even imagine how much money this is. And for you

Financial questions, departures dog board

By Bill Bush
The Columbus Dispatch

One-third of the 12 active members of a Columbus nonprofit board — a board that has a multimillion-dollar federal contract to provide Head Start preschool services to low-income children — resigned this past spring amid allegations that the operation lacked financial transparency and board oversight.

The federal Head Start Region 5 office in Chicago requested in March that the board of the Child Development Council of Franklin County, which has a $30 million-plus annual budget, investigate the allegations reported by Nana Watson, who was the board's chairwoman until she resigned in April.

Watson said she became

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Gunman kills 5 at newspaper in Maryland

By Lynh Bui, Ovetta Wiggins and Tom Jackman
The Washington Post

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — A man with a vendetta against an Annapolis, Maryland, newspaper fired a long gun through the newsroom's glass doors and at its employees, killing five and injuring two others Thursday in a targeted shooting, according to

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